

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

In a flash lamp having, within a sealed container encapsulating a gas therein, a discharge electrode pair comprising a cathode and an anode opposing thereto for effecting an arc discharge, and trigger electrodes for effecting a preliminary discharge before the arc discharge, the cathode comprises a metal substrate of an impregnation type in which a porous high-melting metal is impregnated with a material likely to emit electrons or a sintering type in which a high-melting metal is sintered with a material likely to emit electrons contained therein, and a coating of a high-melting metal covering a predetermined part of the surface of the metal substrate, whereas the metal substrate has a pointed head directed toward the anode, and this pointed head of the metal substrate has a tip portion exposed without being covered with the coating.